

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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PCT

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 903194	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/009414	International filing date (day/month/year) 24 July 2003 (24.07.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 July 2002 (25.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 12/14, G11B 20/10, G06F 3/06, H04N 5/91		
Applicant SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 February 2004 (17.02.2004)	Date of completion of this report 05 July 2004 (05.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/009414

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP03/09414

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-9	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: WO, 2001/041356, A1 (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), 07 June, 2001, all pages; all drawings; in particular, specification, page 5 & EP, 1237324, A1

Document 2: JP, 2002-189648, A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 05 July, 2002, all pages; all drawings; in particular, Par. Nos. [0025]-[0029] (Family: none)

Document 3: JP, 2001-197292, A (Konica Corp.), 19 July, 2001, all pages; all drawings; in particular, Par. No. [0052] (Family: none)

Document 4: JP, 5-46359, A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 12 February, 1999, all pages; all drawings; in particular, Fig. 4 (Family: none)

The inventions relating to claims 1-6 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

Document 1 describes an invention for a delivery system using a data reproduce device wherein a server and memory card for the reproduction maintain delivery history and delivery condition.

Document 1 describes that the delivery history for license information, which is confidential information, is maintained, that the license information includes a transaction ID, and that both a license ID and transaction ID can be used.

As can be seen for example in documents 2 and 3, technology for maintaining history information in a ring buffer is well-known.

In the inventions described in document 1, using a well-known ring buffer as a means for maintaining delivery history is a matter of design a party skilled in the art can appropriately select.

The inventions relating to claims 7-9 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-3 and document 4 cited in the ISR.

Document 4 describes well-known technology for making search data in a ring buffer consecutive numbers within a predetermined range.

When applying a well-known ring buffer to the invention of document 1, adding consecutive numbers as search data of the ring buffer is merely a matter of design a party skilled in the art can appropriately select.